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IN THE SUPREME COURT STATE OF ARIZONA

PETITION TO AMEND RULES 2, 6, 7, 9, 10, 17, 33, 35, 36, 38, ARIZONA RULES OF PROBATE PROCEDURE

Supreme Court No. R-10-0020

Comment of the State Bar of Arizona Regarding Petition to Amend Rules 2, 6, 7, 9, 10, 17, 33, 35, 36 and 38, Arizona Rules of Probate Procedure

The State Bar of Arizona, upon the recommendation of the Probate and Trust Section, supports the petitioner's proposed amendments to certain provisions of the Arizona Rules of Probate Procedure. The petition seeks to improve the functioning of the system of justice by making the Rules internally consistent in terminology and by clarifying upon whom an objection to a petition must be served.

The petition also seeks to:

- 1. make more transparent disclosure of relevant information to interested persons in a decedent's estate in order that it will more likely result in actual notice to interested persons;
- 2. make several processes concerning protected persons more transparent and efficient;
- 3. clarify the role of a court-appointed counsel once a ward has died;
- 4. clarify the process for approval of attorneys' and fiduciaries' fees under Rule 33; and

5. clarify the time within which a guardian must seek extension for inpatient mental health care and treatment for a ward.

Conclusion

Based upon the above, the State Bar of Arizona believes that the adoption of these amendments would improve the functioning of the system of justice, a stated goal of the State Bar of Arizona.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED this _____day of May 2010.

John A. Furlong General Counsel

Electronic copy filed with the Clerk of the Supreme Court of Arizona this day of May, 2010,

And a copy was mailed to: Jay M. Polk, Esquire Barron & Polk, P.L.L.C. 7310 N. 16th Street, Ste. 330 Phoenix, Arizona 85016

By: Kathleen Lundgen